

What is claimed is:

1. A multimedia mailbox system, comprising:

- 5 a) a message store for storing multimedia messages;
- b) conversion means for converting non-text messages to
 text; and
- 10 c) summarization means for automatically summarizing
 text.

2. A multimedia mailbox system according to claim 1
15 wherein said summarization means is driven by a list of
keywords.

3. A multimedia mailbox system according to claim 1
20 wherein said summarization means is driven by a plurality
of lists of keywords, each list of keywords being linked
to one of a message subject and a message sender.

4. A multimedia mailbox system according to claim 1,
further comprising:

5 d) filter means for determining high priority messages;
and

e) automatic means for automatically sending a summary
of high priority messages to a designated user.

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5. A multimedia mailbox system, comprising:

a) a message store for storing multimedia messages;

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b) conversion means for converting non-text messages to
text; and

c) filter means for determining high priority messages.

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6. A multimedia mailbox system according to claim 5
further comprising summarization means for automatically
summarizing text.

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7. A multimedia mailbox system according to claim 6
wherein said summarization means is driven by a list of
keywords.

8. A multimedia mailbox system according to claim 7
wherein said summarization means is driven by a plurality
5 of lists of keywords, each list of keywords being linked
to one of a message subject and a message sender.

9. A multimedia mailbox system according to claim 8
10 further comprising automatic means for automatically
sending a summary of high priority messages to a
designated user.

10. A method for managing a multimedia mailbox system,
15 comprising the steps of:

a) storing a plurality of multimedia messages in a
mailbox;

b) converting non-text messages to text; and

c) automatically summarizing text.

11. A method according to claim 10 wherein said step of
25 automatically summarizing text is keyword driven.

12. A method according to claim 10 wherein said step of automatically summarizing text is keyword driven utilizing a plurality of lists of keywords, each list of keywords being linked to one of a message subject and a message sender.

13. A method according to claim 10 further comprising the steps of:

d) determining which messages have high priority; and

e) automatically sending a summary of high priority messages to a designated user.

14. A method according to claim 13 wherein said step of determining further comprises the step of filtering to determine message priority.

15. A method for managing a multimedia mailbox system,
comprising the steps of:

5 a) storing a plurality of multimedia messages in a
mailbox;

b) converting non-text messages to text; and

10 c) determining which messages have high priority.

16. A method according to claim 15 wherein said step of
determining further comprises the step of filtering to
15 determine message priority.

17. A method according to claim 15 further comprising the
step of automatically summarizing text.

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18. A method according to claim 17 wherein said step of
automatically summarizing text is keyword driven.

19. A method according to claim 17 wherein said step of
automatically summarizing text is keyword driven
utilizing a plurality of lists of keywords, each list of
5 keywords being linked to one of a message subject and a
message sender.

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